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"Nimis affinis S. flexicauli. Caulis rectus acute angulatus. Folia ovata, utrinque mucronata, serrata, supra laevia, subtus scabra. Racemi ex alis, folio plerumque breviores."

This is a real mixture. The specimen in the Linnaean herbarium (labeled *lateriflora* by Linnaeus and corrected to *latifolia* by Smith) is a cultivated non-typical form of the plant treated as *S. latifolia* in the seventh edition of Gray's Manual (p. 789). The Linnaean description also applies to this. The Plukenet reference however applies to something entirely different (Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 17: 178–9. 1882).

From the above it follows that the names Solidago flexicaulis and Solidago latifolia both apply to the same plant. Under the American code of nomenclature Solidago flexicaulis having place priority should be used. The Vienna code (Art. 46) provides "when two or more groups of the same nature are united \* \* \* if the names are of the same date, the author chooses, and his choice cannot be modified by subsequent authors."<sup>1</sup>

In the present case the earliest author to combine the two names so far found by me was Aiton (Hort. Kew. 3: 217. 1789), who united them under the name *Solidago flexicaulis*. Later on Willdenow (Sp. Pl. 3: 2064. 1800) did the same thing, treating *Solidago latifolia* as a variety of *Solidago flexicaulis*.

Solidago flexicaulis then is the name which should be applied to this species. It is happily a highly appropriate name, and is much to be preferred to a name based on cultivated non-typical material. MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY.

# SOME EASTERN AMERICAN FORMS OF SENECIO M. L. Fernald

IN 1924 I noted<sup>2</sup> the fact that practically all our native species of *Senecio* in northeastern America have both radiate and discoid forms. It was not then considered worth while to give the exceptional

<sup>1</sup> This is as troublesome a rule to apply as could possibly be devised. Its application requires hunting through all the authors whose names may occur to one, in order to find out who first united the groups. One may very easily overlook some author, or some works may not be accessible for examination. Libraries where such investigation can be carried on are very few in number, and the requisite knowledge of what books to look through in each case belongs to very few. The simple rule of the American code is infinitely the best in cases like the present where only two specific names are involved and there is no reason for a different course. <sup>2</sup> Fernald, Rhodora, xxvi. 117, in note (1924).

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forms distinctive names, but so many recent collections of them have come to hand with requests for names that it seems desirable to have definite formal designations for them. Colonies of discoid plants of ordinarily radiate species or of radiate plants of ordinarily discoid species are conspicuous and should they be brought into cultivation would need definite names. The following such forms are known to me.

S. RESEDIFOLIUS Less., forma columbiensis(Gray), n. comb. S. resedifolius, var. columbiensis Gray, Syn. Fl. N. A. i.<sup>2</sup> 390 (1884). S. hyperborealis, var. columbiensis (Gray) Greenm. Monogr. Senecio 1 Teil, 24 (1901). S. Fernaldii Greenm. Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. iii. 90 (1916).

The type of S. resedifolius, var. columbiensis Gray was a lax and green shade-state, that of S. Fernaldii a compact purplish plant from exposed gravel. Otherwise they seem inseparable. For detailed discussion see Fernald, RHODORA, xxvi. 114, 115 (1924).

S. PAUCIFLORUS Pursh, forma fallax (Greenm.), n. comb. S. pauciflorus fallax Greenm. in Piper, Contrib. U. S. Nat. Herb. xi. 597 (1906).

S. INDECORUS Greene, forma Burkei (Greenm.), n. comb. S. Burkei Greenm. Ott. Nat. xxv. 114 (1911), Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. ii. 626, t. 20, fig. 1 (1915), ibid. iii. 136 (1916). For discussion see Fernald, RHODORA, xxvi. 117, 118 (1924). Some of the material (including all that from Ontario and Michigan) cited by Greenman in Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. iii. 95 (1916) as S. pauciflorus, var. fallax belongs here. S. OBOVATUS Muhl., forma elongatus (Pursh), n. comb. S. elongatus Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. ii. 529 (1814). S. obovatus, var. elongatus (Pursh) Britt. in Britt. & Br. Ill. Fl. iii. 478 (1898). S. ROBBINSII Oakes, forma invenustus, n. f., capitulus eradiatis.-TYPE: meadow, Ayer's Junction, Pembroke, Maine, July 12, 1909, Fernald, no. 2206 (Herb. N. E. Bot. Club). S. PSEUDAUREUS Rydb., forma ecoronatus, n. f., capitulis eradiatis. -TYPE: springy meadow in woods at about 600 m. altitude, North Fork of Madeleine River, Gaspé Co., Quebec, July 31, 1923, Fernald, Dodge & Smith, no. 26,097 (Gray Herb.), distributed as S. aureus L., "discoid form."

Much of the material from western Newfoundland, Anticosti Island and the Gaspé Peninsula, which has passed as Senecio aureus, is apparently inseparable from the cordilleran S. pseudaureus. The discoid form was abundant at the type-station.

S. PAUPERCULUS Michx., forma verecundus n. f., capitulis eradi-

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atis.—TYPE: dans la tourbière, Rivière la Loutre, Ile d'Anticosti, Quebec, 5 août, 1926, Victorin & Rolland, no. 25,167 (Gray Herb.). This is the discoid form of typical S. pauperculus which, as pointed out by me<sup>1</sup> in 1921, is the northern extreme of the species, with very narrow basal and cauline leaves. The coarser and usually more southern variety also has a rayless form. This is

S. PAUPERCULUS, var. BALSAMITAE (Muhl.) Fernald, forma inchoatus n. f., capitulis eradiatis.—Type: talus of calcareous cliffs near Cape Rosier, Gaspé Co., Quebec, July 18, 1928, A. S. Pease, no. 20,918 (Gray Herb.).

GRAY HERBARIUM.

# NOTES ON ASTER

## S. F. BLAKE

THE notes on Aster here brought together relate principally to species of the northwest coast which have been studied by the writer in the preparation of the treatment of the family Asteraceae for Prof. L. R. Abrams's "Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States." A new variety of Aster spectabilis from North Carolina is also described.

ASTER SPECTABILIS Ait. var. cinerascens, var. nov. Stems glabrate below; branches and peduncles densely cinereous-hirsute with several-celled spreading hairs, essentially without short glandular hairs; leaves more or less densely hirsute or hirsutulous on both sides, the hairs with small tuberculate bases; outer phyllaries hirsute-ciliate, on back hirsutulous, the middle and inner less pubescent or nearly glabrous except for the stipitate-glandular tips.—North Carolina: In pure sand of road embankment, Kellum, Onslow Co., 17 Oct. 1927, E. T. Wherry (type no. 1,420,092, U. S. Nat. Herb.; duplicates in Gray Herb. and my own herbarium).

In typical Aster spectabilis Ait., as represented in the National Herbarium by a series of specimens ranging from Massachusetts to Maryland (Vienna, Wicomico Co., 1906, Forrest Shreve & W. R. Jones 1311a) and western North Carolina, the stem is densely stipitate-glandular and also sometimes sparsely hirsute, the peduncles very densely stipitate-glandular and often rather densely hirsute, the leaves ciliolate but otherwise usually glabrous or merely glandular and sparsely hirsutulous beneath, and the involucre densely stipitate-glandular with some of the outer phyllaries often piloseciliate. The specimens collected by Dr. Wherry represent the south-

<sup>1</sup> Fernald, RHODORA, XXIII. 299 (1921).